

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A regional information system comprising:  
a plurality of detectors for monitoring a region;  
control circuitry coupled to the detectors, the control circuitry at least in part in response to indicia from the detectors, establishes at least one ingress path into a portion of the region indicated by at least some of the detectors, as being the location of a hazardous condition.
2. A system as in claim 1 where the control circuitry at least in part in response to indicia from the detectors, establishes at least one egress path from the portion of the region.
3. A system as in claim 1, which includes ingress path indicating elements coupled to the control circuits.
4. A system as in claim 3 where at least some of the ingress path indicating elements comprise electrical circuitry for emitting at least one of an audible or a visual indicium.
5. A system as in claim 1 where the control circuitry comprises at least one of tree evaluation software, neural networks implementing software, fuzzy logic software or pattern recognition software for establishing at least one ingress path.
6. A system as in claim 2 where the control circuitry comprises at least one of tree evaluation software, neural networks implementing software, fuzzy logic software or pattern recognition software for establishing at least one egress path.
7. A system as in claim 1 where the control circuitry alters the at least one ingress path over time in response to the hazardous condition.
8. A system as in claim 5 where the control circuitry alters the at least one ingress path over time in response to the hazardous condition.

9. A system as in claim 2 where the control circuitry alters the at least one egress path in response to the hazardous condition.

10. A system as in claim 7 where the control circuits visually identify the original ingress path and then visually identify the altered ingress path in response to the hazardous condition.

11. A system as in claim 9 where the control circuits visually and audibly identify the original egress path and then the altered egress path in response to the hazardous condition.

12. A system as in claim 11 which includes a plurality of path identifying devices coupled to the control circuits.

13. A system as in claim 12 where the path identifying devices comprise at least one of visible output devices or audible output devices.

14. A system as in claim 13 which includes executable instructions for changing paths and for altering activated path identifying devices in accordance therewith.

15. A path defining system adapted for use with a plurality of regional monitoring units, the system comprising:

first circuitry to receive inputs from members of a plurality of monitoring units;  
second circuitry, coupled to the first circuitry, the second circuitry processes a plurality of inputs received from the monitoring units, and responsive thereto determines at least one acceptable egress path for exiting a region while excluding at least one unacceptable path.

16. A system as in claim 15 where the second circuitry limits acceptable egress paths to those that are associated with non-hazardous condition indicating inputs from at least some of the monitoring units.

17. A system as in claim 15 where the second circuitry excludes paths that are associated with hazardous condition indicating inputs from at least some of the monitoring units.

18. A system as in claim 15 where processing by the second circuit comprises executing a plurality of prestored instructions.

19. A system as in claim 15 where the second circuitry comprises a plurality of executable instructions for, at least in part, determining at least one ingress path in accordance with a pretermined criterion.

20. A system as in claim 19 where executable instructions establish different ingress and egress paths.

21. A system as in claim 19 which includes third circuitry responsive to at least one egress path, for activating a plurality of path indicating annunciators.

22. A system as in claim 21 where at least some of the annunciators comprise devices having at least audio outputs and others comprise devices having at least visual outputs.

23. A system as in claim 19 which includes third circuitry responsive to at least one ingress path for activating a plurality of path indicating annunciators.

24. A system as in claim 23 where, at least some of the annunciators comprise devices having at least audio outputs and others comprise devices having at least visual outputs.

25. A system as in claim 24 which includes different ingress path and egress path annunciators.

26. A system as in claim 24 with executable instructions for modifying determined paths.

27. A method comprising:  
receiving a plurality of condition indicating signals from a group of different sources associated with a region;  
evaluating the signals, and, responsive thereto determining at least one of an egress path from or an ingress path into the region.

28. A method as in claim 27 which includes rejecting a different, potential egress path.

29. A methods as in claim 27 which includes modifying the at least one egress path in response to the condition indicating signals.

30. A method as in claim 29 which includes enabling path indicating annunciators to identify the modified egress path.